

Add-On Vehicle Belts, Buckles, and Clips

Adapters for Safety Belts that are Incompatible with Child Restraints

Many older vehicles (made before the 1996 model year) from certain manufacturers have safety belts in the front seat that are not designed to anchor child safety seats tightly. Some have buckles anchored very far forward. Many have automatic (passive) front safety belts either attached to the door of the vehicle or moving on a track above the door. Some have separate lap belts that do not lock tightly around child safety seats. Special parts may be ordered from the vehicle manufacturer to solve some of these problems.

Children should be buckled up in the back seat, if possible. However, it may be necessary to place a child safety seat in the front if all rear seating positions are in use by other children or the child safety seat cannot be firmly attached in the rear. Some manufacturers of cars with automatic belts have provided special child seat buckles or belts for anchoring a child safety seat tightly in the front seat, if necessary.

The parts listed below should ONLY be used when installing a child safety seat in one of these specific vehicles, not for restraining an older child or adult passenger. Order them from your local dealership. Dealer parts departments may not be familiar with these parts, as they are not ordered frequently. Manufacturer customer service numbers are included, in case you wish to inquire further.

For more information about passenger safety:
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 Auto Safety Hotline
 888-DASH-2-DOT or 800-424-9153 (tty)
www.nhtsa.gov

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
 Safe Ride Helpline
 800-745-SAFE (English), 800-747-SANO
 (Spanish) www.carseat.org

List of Add-On Vehicle Belts and Buckles by Manufacturer

Note: All retail prices are for parts only and do not include any dealer charges that may apply.

Prices and information have been supplied by the manufacturer and are subject to change.

Ford Motor Company 800-392-3673

Make /Model	Model Year(s)	Retail Price	Description
Ford Thunderbird	1989-93	no charge	Replacement front seat buckle to be attached farther back than the standard buckle. See owner's manual
Mercury Cougar	1989-93	no charge	

General Motors Corporation

Buick	800-521-7300	Oldsmobile	800-442-6537
Cadillac	800-458-8006	Pontiac	800-762-2737
Chevrolet/GEO	800-222-1020	Saturn	800-555-6000
GMC	800-462-8782		

Make /Model	Retail Price	Description
All with automatic lap-shoulder belts attached to the door	no charge	Separate lap belt to be attached to a special anchor next to the door .

Honda (American Honda Motor Co.) 800-999-1009

Make /Model	Model Year(s)	Retail Price	Description
Accord Coupe	1988-89	\$31.88	A manual lap belt kit is offered for cars with automatic safety belts attached to the door. Information is in owner's manual.
Accord Hatchback	1988-89	\$31.88	
Civic Hatchback	1990-91	\$31.88	
Prelude	1988-91	\$31.88	
CRX (except HF)	1989	\$31.88	
CRX	1990-1991	\$31.88	

Nissan North America 800-647-7261

Make /Model	Model Year(s)	Retail Price	Description
240SX	1990-93	\$15.95	Belt
240SX Convertible	1993-1994	\$18.95	Belt
300 ZX	1990-93	\$18.95	Belt
G20	1991-93	\$11.95	Buckle
Axxess	1990	\$11.95	Buckle
Maxima	1987-88	\$21.02	Buckle
Maxima	1989-92	\$11.95	Buckle
Sentra 2 door/4 door	1989-90	\$11.95	Buckle
Sentra 2 door/4door	1991-92	\$15.95	Belt
Sentra 2 door	1993-94	\$15.95	Belt
Stanza	1990-92	\$11.95	Buckle

None available:* Bentley Motors North America, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, Isuzu (American Isuzu), Mazda North America, Mitsubishi Motors North America, Porsche Cars North America, Saab Cars USA, Suzuki (American Suzuki Motor Corp.), Toyota Motor Corporation U.S.A., Volkswagen of America, Volvo

*In most cases, these manufacturers did not use technology requiring the types of special equipment mentioned above for compatibility with child safety seats.

Belt-Shortening Clips

Some pre-1996 vehicles have lap belts that will not stay locked after they have been tightened. They may be in the front or the back seat. For these belts, the webbing of the lap belt is sewn to the buckle tongue; there may be no shoulder belt or one that is made of a separate piece of webbing.

To install a child safety seat, this type of lap belt must be shortened with a "belt-shortening clip" (BSC). The metal BSC is used to fix the length of the lap belt that has an emergency-locking retractor (ELR), the type that only locks during a crash. The clip takes all excess webbing out of the lap belt.

The manufacturers listed below made one or more vehicles that require the use of a belt-shortening clip to install a child safety seat. Some vehicles made by manufacturers not on the list also have belts that need this part. A belt-shortening clip from any of the vehicle manufacturers listed can be used on another manufacturer's vehicle; they are interchangeable. Use these part numbers to order the clip from the dealer parts department.

It is important but sometimes difficult to obtain the appropriate instructions. Belt-shortening clips sold by most vehicle dealers do not include belt-

shortening instructions. If the package does not include instructions for using the clip to shorten a belt, look in the vehicle owner's manual. As of December 2002, the Toyota BSC was the only one sold with belt-shortening instructions.

Note: Many other pre-1996 vehicles require the use of a “regular locking clip.” This type of clip, which comes with child safety seats, is used on lap-shoulder belts made of a single piece of webbing with a sliding latchplate. The clip locks the two pieces of webbing together at the latchplate. (Newer vehicles are required to meet a standard for safety

belts that will stay tight around a child safety seat without adding clips.)

Belt-shortening clips are the same shape as regular locking clips, but they are used differently and are much stronger. Some, but not all, BSCs are larger than regular locking clips. It is impossible to rely on markings on BSCs to differentiate them from regular locking clips. **The only way to identify a belt-shortening clip positively is to obtain the clip in its original packaging from a vehicle manufacturer.**

Warning: NEVER use the regular locking clip supplied with a child safety seat as a BSC. It could fail in a crash, allowing the child restraint to move forward dangerously.

Mfr.	Part Number for Belt-Shortening Clips (Part name used by manufacturer may be different)
Ford	F03Z-5461249-A (includes instructions for use as locking clip only; refer to vehicle manual)
GM	94844571 (no instructions included; refer to vehicle manual)
Toyota	73119-22010 (includes instructions for belt shortening)
Nissan	H8010-89970 (includes instructions for use as locking clip only; refer to vehicle manual)

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 www.carseat.org
 310-222-6860, 800-745-SAFE (English) 310-222-6862, 800-747-SANO (Spanish)

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